

Good morning!

Let's take a look at the same clip from yesterday again.....take a look [here](#).

Let's play the 'What If' game a little.....

- 1) WHAT IF white had caught the ball with his left foot *on the floor* instead of while he was in the air (both feet OFF the floor)? Could he have then placed his right foot in the back court? NO! THIS would be a violation since it is not part of the exception in 9.9.3.

ART. 3 . . . During a jump ball, throw-in or while on defense, a player may legally jump from his/her frontcourt, secure control of the ball with both feet off the floor and return to the floor with one or both feet in the backcourt. The player may make a normal landing and it makes no difference whether the first foot down is in the frontcourt or backcourt.
PENALTY: (Section 9) The ball is dead when the violation occurs and is awarded to the opponents for a throw-in from the designated out-of-bounds spot nearest the violation.

- 2) WHAT IF he had caught the ball with his left foot on the floor **then** hopped to his left foot again as he did just before he jumped to catch the ball? This would be a travel since his left foot would have been his pivot foot, it was raised from the floor and returned to the floor. THIS is a great reason to make sure we talk about the pivot foot in regards to traveling and not a certain number of steps. Traveling is all dependent on the pivot foot.
- 3) After receiving the pass and landing legally as he did, was there a travel that occurred? Did white 4 slide his pivot foot before starting the dribble? YES! Travel!

Think this play was important? It was a 1 point game with 3.7 seconds left when the throw-in started.....and a foul was called that sent the losing team to the line. The travel on white 4 was missed then he was rewarded with a foul and went to the free throw line to try to tie/win the game.

There is a TON going on in this play...obviously in slo-motion it is easier to SEE what happened. We do not have the luxury of slo-mo in our games! Remember, if you are not sure in REAL-TIME, it did not happen. We have to be POSITIVE to put air in the whistle. Another lesson from this play is that we cannot be 'thinking about what just happened' since something else could happen that we miss! If we are 'thinking' about whether or not the catch and landing was a back court violation, it would be easy to miss the travel when he slid his foot before starting the dribble. It's ok to 'remember' a play like that to discuss later or look at on film, but make sure to stay focused on the live action!

Have a great scrimmage tonight....2 days till real action!!!

Tim